

REMARKS

Claims 1-31 are pending in this application. Claims 2, 5-12, 15-19, and 22-26 are original, claims 3-4 and 28-31 are previously presented, and claims 1, 13-14, 20-21, and 27 are currently amended. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claims in view of the following remarks.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of claims 4-12 and 28-29, and the allowable subject matter of claims 14-19 and 21-26. In response, claims 14 and 21 have been placed in independent form. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 14-19 and 21-26 are in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-3, 13, 20, 27, 30, and 31 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being unpatentable over Gay, et al. (US 5,467,455). Applicants respectfully submit that each of these claims are now in condition for allowance.

Claim 1, as amended herein, recites "first and second MOSFETs of the same type directly connected to each other in series across a Vdd node of a first source potential and a Vss node of a second source potential." As admitted in the Office Action, Gay does not teach or suggest this limitation. Office Action, page 4. In fact, the "directly connected" language is taken from the Examiner's statement. As a result, entry of this amendment and allowance of the claim is requested.

Claim 13, as amended herein, recites a first N-channel MOSFET having a source terminal and a bulk terminal directly connected to a common node, and a second N-channel MOSFET having a source terminal and a bulk terminal being directly connected to a Vss node. Similarly, claim 20, as amended herein, recites a first P-channel MOSFET having source terminal and the

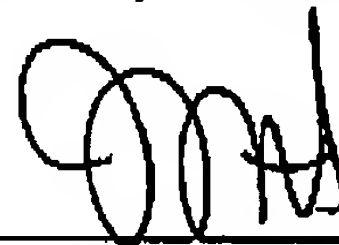
bulk terminal being directly connected to a Vdd node and a second P-channel MOSFET having a source terminal and a bulk terminal being directly connected to the common node. It is respectfully submitted that Gay does not teach or suggest the limitations of claim 13.

Claim 27, as currently amended, recites first and second MOSFETs that are directly connected to each other in series across a Vdd node of a first source potential and a Vss node of a second source potential. Once again, as admitted in the Office Action, the reference by Gay does not teach or suggest the limitations of claim 27.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 13, 20, and 27, as currently amended, are in condition for allowance. Claims 2-3 and 30-31 are dependent on these currently amended claims and Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-3 and 30-31 are also in condition for allowance.

Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the claims in condition for allowance. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Ira S. Matsil, Applicants' attorney, at 972-732-1001 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date

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